

investigators, women were seen soliciting men and taking them to this hotel.

"Yet your other two investigators, both married men, took a girl, who, they say, was and is decent and respectable, into this hotel, and stayed with her in a locked bedroom of the hotel, after registering there as man and wife."

Williams promptly disclaimed all responsibility for the methods used by his "investigators."

"I did not know anything about how the testimony was obtained," he said. "I am not responsible."

"It doesn't make any difference who is responsible," said Judge Hopkins. "I am not criticising you personally, Mr. Williams. I am criticising the methods used in this case."

"This girl, according to your own 'investigators,' was a good girl, a pure girl. To such a girl, her good name, her reputation, is her greatest asset."

"Another element must enter into this case—the psychology of it, the suggestion of it."

"So far as I can make out, there was nothing wanting toward the ruin of this girl except the physical fact of prostitution."

"These men, these married men, took the girl to a hotel which they charge is little better than a house of prostitution. They both registered there, with this innocent girl, as man and wife. They both went to a bedroom with this innocent girl. They both locked themselves in the bedroom with the girl and stayed in the room for half an hour."

"If"—and Judge Hopkins' tone became grim—"I were the wife of either of these 'investigators' of yours, I'd hate to think of my husband being locked up in a bedroom in a disorderly house with a girl while I sat at home."

The hotel which Williams had tried to get enough evidence against to

have closed is the Erie, at Erie and Clark street.

This hotel is owned by George B. Braun, the Progressive who ran for alderman of the Twenty-first ward, at the recent election. Braun was defeated by Geiger.

During the heat of the campaign it was proved that Braun owned the Erie and that it was notoriously a disorderly house.

While Braun owns the hotel, the lease is in the name of William and Rose Cline, by whom it is operated.

On the strength of the evidence obtained by his married "investigators," Williams had Mr. and Mrs. Cline arrested on a charge of running a disorderly house.

It was this case which came before Judge Hopkins today.

The first Williams' "investigator" to testify today was B. Harris, of 848 LaSalle avenue, he who showed up so discredibly in Williams' crucifixion of the landlady of the hotel at 1361 North Clark street.

Harris gave his name and address, said he was a salesman for Siegel, Cooper & Co., and that he was married.

"I know the Erie hotel can be used as a house of assignation. Some days ago I went there with a girl, a decent girl. I took this girl with me so I could get clinching evidence against the hotel."

"I asked for a room. I paid the clerk one dollar for a room, and registered as man and wife. No questions were asked me. As soon as I had paid the dollar, I and the girl were shown to a room."

"The girl and I entered the room. It was furnished chiefly with a bed and a chair. I looked the door. The girl and I stayed in the room for half an hour."

"Then we came out. I handed the key to the room to the clerk, and the girl and I left the hotel. No questions were asked me at any time."

The other Williams' "investigator," one Congdon, took the stand.